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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/618,873	07/14/2003	Jerome Azema	TI-34922	8044

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EXAMINER	
GERGISO, TECHANE	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2137	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
10/03/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/618,873	AZEMA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Techane J. Gergiso T. G	2137	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *31 January 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-31* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-22 and 28* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *23-27 and 29-31* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is a Final Office Action in response to the communication filed on July 11, 2007.

2. Claims 1-31 have been examined.

3. Claims 1-31 are pending.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-31 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-22 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geiger et al. (hereinafter referred to as Geiger, US Pat No.: 6, 463, 534) in view of Drews (US Pat. No.: 6,647,494).

As per claim 1:

Geiger discloses a method of configuring a processing device, comprising the steps of:

accessing a certificate bound to the processing device (column 3: lines 14-21; column 4: lines 23-35, lines 59-67; figure 2: 100-102); and

authenticating the certificate (column 11: lines 46-54; column 16: lines 10-43; lines 59-67; figure 2: 100-102).

Geiger does not explicitly disclose reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters. Drews in analogous art, however, disclose reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters (Abstract; column 2: lines 60-67; column 3: lines 1-6; The configurable parameters set 45 includes an authorization certificate 42. The authorization certificate provides security information that client platform 30 uses to perform integrity checks and authenticate the sources of request messages or work orders that client platform 30 receives). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Geiger to include reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide a system and method for checking authorization of remote configuration operations including generating a request credential manifest to request an update of configurable parameters on a client platform as suggested by Drews in (column 1: lines 35-45).

As per claim 6:

Geiger discloses a processing device comprising:

processing circuitry (figure 1: 11);

a memory coupled to the processing circuitry (figure 4: 452);

wherein the processing circuitry:

accesses a certificate bound to the processing device and stored in the memory (column 3: lines 14-21; column 4: lines 23-35, lines 59-67; lines 59-67; figure 2: 100-102); and

authenticates the certificate (column 11: lines 46-54; column 16: lines 10-43; lines 59-67; figure 2: 100-102).

England does not explicitly disclose reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters. Drews in analogous art, however, disclose reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters (Abstract; column 2: lines 60-67; column 3: lines 1-6; The configurable parameters set 45 includes an authorization certificate 42. The authorization certificate provides security information that client platform 30 uses to perform integrity checks and authenticate the sources of request messages or work orders that client platform 30 receives). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Kavsan to include reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated

to do so to provide a system and method for checking authorization of remote configuration operations including generating a request credential manifest to request an update of configurable parameters on a client platform as suggested by Drews in (column 1: lines 35-45).

As per claim 12:

Geiger discloses a method of configuring a processing device, comprising the steps of:

accessing a certificate bound to the processing device (column 3: lines 14-21; column 4: lines 23-35, lines 59-67; lines 59-67; figure 2: 100-102); and

authenticating the certificate (column 11: lines 46-54; column 16: lines 10-43; lines 59-67; figure 2: 100-102).

England does not explicitly disclose reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters. Drews in analogous art, however, disclose reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters (Abstract; disclosed by Drews in column 2: lines 40-55; column 2: lines 60-67; column 3: lines 1-6; The configurable parameters set 45 includes an authorization certificate 42. The authorization certificate provides security information that client platform 30 uses to perform integrity checks and authenticate the sources of request messages or work orders that client platform 30 receives). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Kavsan to include reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to

the configuration parameters. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide a system and method for checking authorization of remote configuration operations including generating a request credential manifest to request an update of configurable parameters on a client platform as suggested by Drews in (column 1: lines 35-45).

As per claim 17:

Geiger discloses a processing device comprising:

processing circuitry (figure 1: 11);

a memory coupled to the processing circuitry (figure 4: 452);

wherein the processing circuitry:

accesses a certificate bound to the processing device and stored in the memory (column 3: lines 14-21; column 4: lines 23-35, lines 59-67; lines 59-67; figure 2: 100-102); and

authenticates the certificate (column 11: lines 46-54; column 16: lines 10-43; lines 59-67; figure 2: 100-102).

England does not explicitly disclose reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters. Drews in analogous art, however, disclose reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters (Abstract; disclosed by Drews in column 2: lines 40-55; column 2: lines 60-67; column 3: lines 1-6; The configurable parameters set 45

includes an authorization certificate 42. The authorization certificate provides security information that client platform 30 uses to perform integrity checks and authenticate the sources of request messages or work orders that client platform 30 receives). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Kavsan to include reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated; configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide a system and method for checking authorization of remote configuration operations including generating a request credential manifest to request an update of configurable parameters on a client platform as suggested by Drews in (column 1: lines 35-45).

As per claims 2, 7 and 13:

Geiger discloses a method, wherein the steps of accessing the certificate, authenticating the certificate, and reading configuration parameters from the certificate are performed whenever the processing device is initially powered (figure 2: 130; column 6: lines 5-45).

As per claims 3, 8, 14 and 19:

Drews discloses a method and a processing device, wherein the steps of accessing the certificate, authenticating the certificate, and reading configuration parameters from the certificate are repeated upon a system reset/boot (figure 2: 130; column 6: lines 5-45; column 11: lines 26-30).

As per claims 4, 9, 15 and 20:

Drews discloses a method and a processing device, wherein the configuring step includes the step of configuring performance characteristics of the hardware in the processing device responsive to the configuration parameters (figure 4: 60-69).

As per claims 5, 10 and 16:

Geiger discloses a method, wherein the configuring step includes the step of configuring software in the processing device responsive to the configuration parameters (column 10: lines 7-30).

As per claim 11:

Geiger discloses a processing device, wherein the certificate can be created and modified only by the manufacturer of the processing device (column 17: lines 36-48).

As per claim 18:

Geiger discloses a processing device, wherein the processing circuitry accesses the certificate, authenticates the certificate, and reads configuration parameters whenever the processing device is initially powered (figure 2: 130; column 6: lines 5-45).

As per claim 19:

Geiger discloses a processing device, wherein the processing circuitry accesses the certificate, authenticates the certificate, and reads configuration parameters upon a system reset/boot (figure 2: 130; column 6: lines 5-45; column 11: lines 26-30).

As per claim 21:

Geiger discloses a processing device, wherein the processing circuitry configures software in the processing device responsive to the configuration parameters (column 4: lines 23-35; column 10: lines 7-30).

As per claim 22:

Geiger discloses a processing device, wherein the certificate can be created and modified only by the manufacturer of the processing device (column 17: lines 36-48).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 23-27 and 29-31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: There are an increasing needs to verify the origin and integrity of system firmware. To meet this needs a processing device is configured by accessing a certificate bound to the processing device and authenticating the certificate. Configuration parameters are read from the certificate, if properly the certificate is authenticated. The processing device is configured responsive to the

configuration parameters. The invention provides that the certificate protects the configuration parameters from being altered by the user or a third party and only a manufacturer or a party authorized by the manufacturer can change configuration settings of the hardware.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

See the notice of reference cited in form PTO-892 for additional prior art.

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Techane J. Gergiso whose telephone number is (571) 272-3784 and fax number is (571) 273-3784. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 6:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

T. G

Techane Gergiso

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 2137

September 26, 2007

EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER